

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 COME-00 EB-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 STR-08

DRC-01 /137 W

----- 069033

R 090455Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4426

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, BTRD, IS, XF, JA

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

REF: STATE 190974

1. SONY OFFICIALS CONFIRMED IN DISCUSSION WITH TOKYO EMBOFFS THAT NOTICE HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL OFFICE THAT SONY WOULD HAVE TO SET UP PLANT IN ARAB COUNTRY OR FACE BOYCOTT OF THEIR PRODUCTS. CONTRARY TO PRESS REPORT, HOWEVER, SONY DOES NOT HAVE A PLANT IN ISRAEL BUT IS A TARGET BECAUSE OF ITS ASSOCIATION WITH CBS INTERNATIONAL IN CBS-SONY RECORD COMPANY IN JAPAN.

NOTICE FROM THE BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL OFFICE THAT SONY PRODUCTS WOULD BE BOYCOTTED UNLESS IT CUT TIES WITH CBS OR PERSUADED CBS TO CLOSE ISRAEL VENTURE. SONY'S RESPONSE TO THE 1971 DEMAND INDIRECTLY IMPLIED THAT IT DID NOT DESIRE TO DISSOLVE SUCCESSFUL CBS-SONY VENTURE IN JAPAN AND AS IT HAD NO INTEREST IN THE CBS ISRAEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPANY, ONLY CBS INERNATIONAL COULD DECIDE ON CON-

TINUED PARTICIPATION. MATTER HAS BEEN IN ABEYANCE
UNTIL CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENT.

3. SONY IS CURRENTLY STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP
PLANT IN ARAB COUNTRY BUT HAS MADE NO DECISION.

4. SONY OFFICIALS SAID THAT CURRENT DEMAND FROM BOYCOTT
ISRAEL OFFICE MADE NO MENTION OF SALES OF SONY PRODUCTS
TO ISRAEL BUT ONLY DEMANDED THAT SONY INVEST IN AN ARAB
COUNTRY AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO ITS INVESTMENT IN CBS-SONY.
IT APPEARS TO THEM THAT THE CURRENT DEMAND IS A COM-
PROMISE OF THE ARABS 1971 DEMAND WHICH SONY COULD NOT
ACCEPT, AND INDICATES ARABS ARE WILLING TO ALLOW SONY
PRODUCTS TO BE SOLD IN BOTH ISRAEL AND ARAB COUNTRIES
AS LONG AS SONY TREATS ARABS AT LEAST EQUALLY BY INVESTING
IN AN ARAB COUNTRY AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE SUPPOSED SONY
INVESTMENT IN ISRAEL. SONY HAS NOT RECEIVED THE
ARAB LEAGUE CIRCULAR MENTIONED REFTEL.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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